TL 4137

EAST TIMOR

At the end of 1988 the Indonesian authorities organised two important visits to East Timor: that of the President of the Republic of Indonesia, General Suharto, on 1 November, and that of 12 Australian journalists two weeks later. These two visits were the proof that there was no perceptible opposition to the integration which had been unilaterally decreed 13 years before.

So much greater was the surprise when, in mid-December, foreign press correspondents in Jakarta learned that approximately 3,000 people had been arrested in October and November. The arrests were confirmed in a Pastoral Note issued by the Catholic Bishop of Dili, Monsignor Belo: "During the months of October and November 1988 the forces of order arrested some people in Dili, Baucau, Lospalos and Viqueque for interrogation". He condemned the torture to which detainees are subjected and which "has become normal (practice) in East Timor". In the Pastoral Note, Monsignor Belo goes on to say "we are against this barbaric system and condemn the lying propaganda, accordin to which human rights abuses do not occur in East Timor."

The Indonesian authorities had managed to conceal these facts, during the 3-day visit, from the 12 journalists - the largest delegation allowed to visit East Timor. This alone reveals something of the extent of the terror to which the population is subjected.

The first clandestine solid reports of the arrests have been arriving in Lisbon these past days (15-20 February). Although still very limited (53 cases, see attached list), the reports reveal a large component of Timorese militarised forces (9), civil servants (9), and teachers (8): from the social classes which are supposedly cooperating with the occupiers.

As stated by Mr. João Maria dos Reis, a former civil servant of the Indonesian administration, in his testimony before this Human Rights Commission, no Timorese individual is safe from persecution.

In July, Mr. Aleixo Ximenes, head of the Regional Assembly (Ketua DPR) of Baucau, the second largest town in the territory, Mr. Joaquim Guterres, head of Venilale and former Commander of auxiliary troops (hansips), and Father Locatelli, an Italian missionary, were also pursued following an attack by the Resistance, and accused of not handing over information which they ought to have supplied. The first managed to take refuge at the Bishop's house, but the second was tortured.

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Underneath these well-known personalities lies a whole population suffering the consequences; it is known that in Samalari, a camp-village in the Baucau district, the occupying authorities assembled all the people and warned those straying from the camp in the following terms: before, Fathers João de Deus and Locatelli and the delegate Aleixo protected you; now, they have signed these restriction measures and there is no one that can defend you.

22 February 1989

Peace is Possible in East Timor

(Ecumenical Association based in Lisbon)

Name		Age	Date	Entity Responsible	Place	
PAULINO FREITAS		25	5/10/88	BABINSA	OSSOLUGA	Tortured
VIRGILIO GUTERRES	(PM)	28	10/88	KODIM	UATO-ARA	Arrested
FERNANDO VARELA	(PM)	22	10/10/88	KODIM	OSSO-GORI	"
DOMINGOS NICOLAU	(PM)	38	10/10/88	KODIM	LIA-ROLA	"
+ 3 HANSIPS	(PM)		10/10/88	KODIM	LIA-ROLA	"
FILOMENO DE JESUS	(CS)		24/10/88	KOPSKAM	DILI	Tortured
LAZARO MELO RIBEIRO		26	24/10/88	KOPSKAM	DILI	"
OHO MANO		50	26/10/88	HANSIPS	BAHA-DATA	"
ALARICO	(TE)		28/10/88	KODIM	UATOLARI	Arrested
DOMINGOS MESQUITA			28/10/88	KODIM	UATOLARI	"
ANANIAS	(TE)		30/10/88	KOPSKAM	LOSPALOS	Tortured
ARMINDO	(ST)		30/10/88	NANGALAS	LAUTEM	Disappeared
CARLOS			31/10/88	NANGALAS	DILOR	executed
LUIS DA CRUZ			31/10/88	NANGALAS	DILOR	"
ABEL XIMENES	(CS)		11/88		DILI	Arrested
AFONSO PINTO	(PM)		11/88		DILI	"
ALBINO FILIPE CRUZ	(TE)		11/88	KODIM	UATOLARI	Disappeared
ALEIXO OLIVEIRA			11/88	INTEL	LOSPALOS	Arrested
AMADEU		18	11/88	INTEL	LOSPALOS	"
ANGELO DOS SANTOS	(ST)		11/88		DILI	"
EURICO	(ST)		11/88	COMARCA	DILI	"
FILOMENO GOMES	(CS)		11/88		AILEU	"
GASPAR FERNANDES	(CS)		11/88	KODIM	UATOLARI	Disappeared
GREGORIO AMARAL	(CS)		11/88	NANGALAS	UATOLARI	"
MANUEL GASPAR	(CS)		11/88	NANGALAS	UATOLARI	Arrested
MATEUS DOUTEL SARMENTO			11/88	NANGALAS	VIQUEQUE	Tortured
VICTOR ALEIXO	(PM)		11/88		DILI	Arrested
XISTO		28	11/88	BAT 315	UAI-OLI	Tortured
ANGELO DE CARVALHO	(CS)		2/11/88	KOPSKAM	DILI	"
LUCAS DA COSTA	(CS)		3/11/88	KOPSKAM	DILI	"
ALEIXO CARVALHO			04/11/88	KOPSKAM	DILI	"
ADRIANO	(CS)	28	05/11/88	KODIM	AILEU	Arrested
ANTONIO ANDRADE LOPES		22	05/11/88	INTEL		"
CRISTOVÃO DA CUNHA		22	05/11/88	INTEL	LOSPALOS	"
DOMINGOS DA COSTA		30	05/11/88	INTEL	TEHA...	"
HERCULANO		23	05/11/88	INTEL	LORÉ-	"
JOÃO DOS SANTOS		18	05/11/88	INTEL	ILILAPA	"
JOÃO GARCIA GOMES		22	05/11/88	INTEL	LOSPALOS	"
LIVIO VIANA	(TE)	29	05/11/88	KODIM	AILEU	"
MANUEL		26	05/11/88	INTEL	LAI-VAI	"
MARCOS CABRAL		22	05/11/88	INTEL	DILI	"
MARIO DA COSTA		18	05/11/88	INTEL	TEHA...	"
OLIVIO CRISTOVÃO	(PM)	25	05/11/88	KODIM	AILEU	"
OSCAR ARAUJO	(TE)	28	05/11/88	KODIM	AILEU	"
SIMEÃO	(TE)	26	05/11/88	KODIM	AILEU	"
VENANCIO VIANA	(TE)	26	05/11/88	KODIM	AILEU	"
VIRIATO		29	05/11/88	INTEL	LAI-VAI	"
VICTOR		20	14/11/88	POLICIA	BERE-COLI	Tortured
FLORENÇA		F 20	14/11/88	POLICIA	BERE-COLI	"
DOMINGOS		28	14/11/88	POLICIA	BERE-COLI	"
ANSELMO		30	14/11/88	POLICIA	BERE-COLI	"
DUARTE		32	14/11/88	POLICIA	BERE-COLI	"
CANDIDO SOARES CRUZ	(TE)		15/11/88	KODIM	DILI	Arrested

(PM) - Military & Para Military (CS) - Civil Servants
(TE) - Teachers (ST) - Students